

Message Text

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43

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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6719

USIA WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY SANA

UNCLAS AMMAN 0368

USIA FOR IOP/M, INA

E.O. N/A

SUBJECT: JORDANIAN EDITORIAL REVIEW JANUARY 24

SEMI-OFFICIAL AR-RAY DAILY NEWSPAPER EDITORIAL UNDER HEADING, "POSITION TO BE IMPOSED" SAYS RECENT CEASEFIRE CANNOT BE CONSIDERED AS TRUCE TO REORGANIZE MILITARY AND POLITICAL POSITIONS BUT SITUATION IMPOSED ON LEBANON FOR BENEFIT OF LEBANON. IT CAME AS RESULT OF ARAB CONVICTIONS THAT LEBANESE ARE NO LONGER IN POSITION TO FIND COMMON GROUND ON WHICH THEY CAN END THEIR FEUD. EDITORIAL LAUDS ROLE THAT WAS PLAYED BY KING HUSSEIN AND LABELS IT AS EFFECTIVE FACTOR IN REACHING NEW LEBANESE AGREEMENT. EDITORIAL ALSO CONDEMNS IN VEILED WORDS SUSPICIOUS ATTITUDE OF EGYPTIAN PRESS WITHOUT NAMING ANY NEWSPAPER IN PARTICULAR. EDITORIAL WAS REFERRING TO WHAT WAS PUBLISHED IN AL-AHRAM AND IN AKHBAR AL-YOUM JANUARY 23, 1976.

AD-DUSTOUR IN ITS EDITORIAL STRESSED ITS CONVICTION THAT RECENT LEBANESE AGREEMENT WILL BE IMPLIMENTED AND WILL BE DURABLE DUE TO FOLLOWING:

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A. IT IS BASED ON POLITICAL FACTORS: B. SYRIAN AND JORDANIAN

POSITIONS EMPHASIZED REJECTION OF SECTARIAN BEHAVIOUS AND C. SYRIAN WERE ABLE TO CONVINCE FIGHTING ROUPS THAT AIM OF THIS AGREEMENT IS TO END EVILS OF CONFLICT RATHER THAN JUST TRUCE TO BE FOLLOWED BY RESUMPTION OF FIGHTING.

JORDAN TIMES FOLLOWS SAME TONE AS OTHER EDITORIALS. THERE IS NOW, PAPER SAID, AN ELEMENT OF WILL TO PEACE WHICH HAS NOT BEEN SO OBVIOUS DURING PAST TEN MONTHS.... STATEMENT OF PIERRE GEMAYEL IS HEARTENING. IT COMES ON HEELS OF SIMILAR STATEMENTS BY KAMAL JUNBLATT AND OTHER LEFTIST LEADERS, AND WITH DIRECT INVOLVEMENT OF LEBANESE PRESIDENT AND STRUCTURAL ROLE IN MAKING AND KEEPING PEACE, PLAYED BY THE SYRIANS, THIS AGREEMENT IS MADE TO LAST.
THOMPSON

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